IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraphs at page 14, lines 19-22, with the following:

Figure 4 2: sVpr¹⁻⁹⁶ - direct separation in SDS-PAGE (A);

immune precipitation prior to SDS-PAGE (B).

Figure 27: sVpr¹⁻⁹⁶ - preparative purification of the raw - HPLC-chromatogram.

Figure 3 7: rVpr¹⁻⁹⁶ - mass spectrum (% int. and molecular weight).